

Volume 11, Edition 7

August 2007

Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club WIRELESS



STINSON STATION WAGON
(See THE OSHKOSH ADVENTURE page 2)

FROM THE TOP: Another Successful Field Day!!!!.

The next meeting is August 15 and will be held at McDougal Hall at the Sonoma Development Center.

Well, we ran out of time to get a newsletter out in July. In August we have a new newsletter editor. Thank you very much Eileen, KG6QNT for taking the job and thank you Darrel, WD6BOR for all the time you have put into the newsletter over the

years. I hope everyone will contribute to the newsletter to fill up the pages.

A number of club members made the trek to Oshkosh for the big air show and there should be plenty of stories to print in the coming months. Welcome back weary travelers.

Field day went well at Maxwell Park. The tower went up with a Tribander on it, along with 2 wire antennas and a 6-meter beam on a push up tower. I don't think we will have the high score for the section, but we ate really well and had a good time. On

Sunday morning 6-meters opened up a little with contacts to Oklahoma and Colorado. We made over 250 contacts with only minor damage to the equipment, so I think the event was a success, especially when W1EJ showed up on Sunday morning and made his fabulous blueberry pancakes.

The July meeting was a BBQ and Jim, K6UUW, graciously volunteered the use of his back yard and pool for us to swarm over. There was a lot of food and a good time was had by all.

At the last meeting we talked about having a few antenna building sessions at the regular meeting. I have plans for a dual band roll up j-pole (2m 440) and for those interested in getting on HF we can build dipoles.

We still need net control stations for the VOMARC Wednesday night net for August, September and December. Let me know if you are interested.

The Pacificon Amateur Radio Convention is coming up on October 19 - 21. Check out the website at <http://www.pacificon.org> for all the event information. It is a lot of fun.

Hope to hear you on the air and see you at the meeting.

73,
Dave, KD6FIL



THE OSHKOSH ADVENTURE

On July 16th, four planes departed Sonoma Skypark for the EAA annual flyin at Oshkosh, WI.

Two of the planes were occupied by VOMARC members; a 1948 Stinson Station Wagon, piloted by Darrel, WD6BOR and his co-pilot was me, K6UUW. The other plane was piloted by Sam, KG6 QNU and his co-pilot was Jan, AE6FQ.

The EAA (Experimental Aircraft Assn.) annual meeting started in the 50's and has grown since. It now serves as one of the aviation world's premier events, attracting top government officials from around the world, corporate leaders and hundreds of thousands of aviation enthusiasts. It now spans the entire spectrum of aviation and attracts 10,000 airplanes each year. New exhibit hangars and expanded facilities serve the more than 750,000 aviation enthusiasts who attend the event annually. The local and state economies enjoy a more than \$80-million boost because of the week-long event.

Enough about planes. Ham radio was also a big part of the trip.

Darrel installed an ICOM 706 under the back seat, wired the sound output through the plane's intercom system and mounted the control head on the instrument panel. I took along my Kenwood TH-d7 handheld for APRS and used to work local hams when we got there. Another use was to monitor the tower to plane communications.

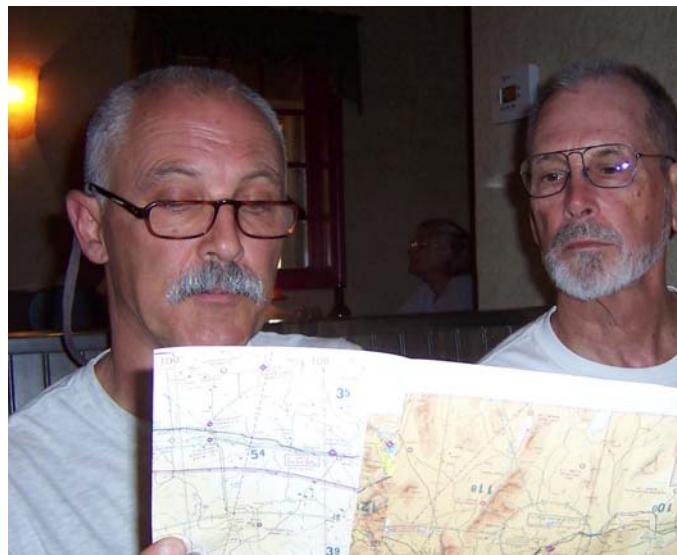
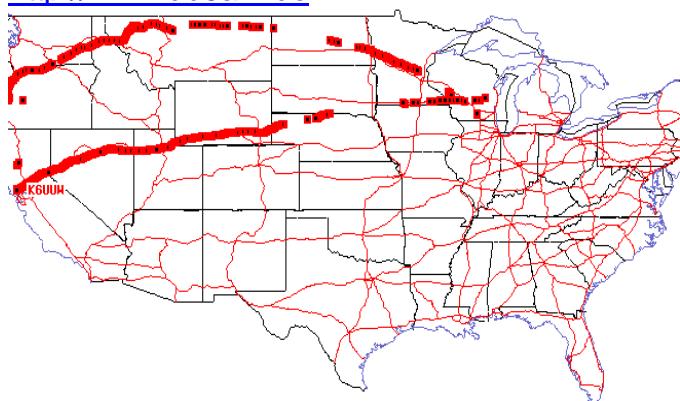
APRS is a way to transmit geographical coordinates using the 2m amateur band. Other stations receive the signals and re-transmit them. Some stations also put these APRS packets on the internet, so that anyone can get on-line and follow the progress.

The picture (page 3) shows the track of our trip. The more northerly track is the going route; the southerly one is our return trip.

This data was found on www.findu.com.

Another site for APRS tracking is

<http://www.db0anf.de>



Darrel and Sam preparing for the next day's flight.

MARLER MOVES ON

Steve Marler has left Sonoma to accept the position of chief of the San Juan Island Fire District in Washington. This has been a long-time dream of his and the opportunity came up suddenly.

He writes that "...I must have died and gone to Heaven! This place is great. I just wish they would have let me have at least 30 days to say goodbye to everyone before I had to leave."

Steve, we wish you the best of luck in your new adventure.

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A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF
Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

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Jan Bush, AE6FQ – Webmeister
Joel Nadler, NN6J – VE Liaison
Jim Hill, K6UUW, Elmer Coordinator
Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Editor

Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC—S. Marler.

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of each month at McDougal Hall at the Sonoma Developmental Center, Eldridge. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

WEB PAGE: <http://www.vomarc.org/>

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

ACS holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

PACKET STATION INFO: The VOMARC packet station is off the air until the Sonoma Police station renovation is completed.

CLUB BREAKFASTS are held on the first Saturday of each month at Issa's Restaurant, 18999 Sonoma Highway, Sonoma. The fun starts at 09:30 local.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:
Eileen@vom.com

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.
32 Patten Street
Sonoma, CA 95476

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**NOTICE!!! THE NEXT VOMARC MEETING IS ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, AT
7:30 P.M. AT MCDOUGAL HALL AT SONOMA DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER
CU THERE!**

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP

VOMARC 2007 Membership Dues: \$15/year individual; \$5/year family member.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.
QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

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Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

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Membership Moment, From the Database Queen

Please check the mailing label on this newsletter. It tells you when your VOMARC dues are due. Dues may be mailed to Ken N6KM, 402 Fourth Street East, Sonoma, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. If there is any mistake, please do not shoot the messenger; email Eileen KG6QNT at Eileen@vom.com. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC**